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Brown County General File

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April 7, 1997

Mr. Bob Moran Project Management Branch Office of Environmental Response Indiana Department of Environmental Management P.O. Box 6015 Indianapolis, Indiana 46206-6015

Brown County Highway Department Site

Dear Bob:

When Brown County recently began preliminary work toward construction of a combined Recycling Center/Highway Garage, we found some evidence of petroleum contamination at the site. do not believe that this contamination is related to the underground storage tanks that were removed several years ago, as EarthTech (Bob Bent out of Bloomington) has completed that site investigation and remediation. The final remediation report was sent to IDEM upon the completion of that work. As the report states, EarthTech followed IDEM guidance and removed contaminated soil to the proper standards at the underground storage tank site.

Rather, the present contamination is believed to have been caused by ordinary operations over many years. We suspect that vehicles may have dripped oil from time to time and that there may have been spills when oil changes were being done in the past. We do not know of any recent spills that would have contributed to this situation.

At today's meeting of the Brown County Board of Commissioners, the Commissioners adopted a proposal to sample the affected area preliminary to determining whether, or to what extent, remediation is necessary. In following through on this matter, Brown County intends to follow appropriate environmental quidance and to work cooperatively with IDEM.

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Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely yours,

Renée R. McDermott

cc: Brown County Commissioners

Brown County Solid Waste District Brown County Highway Department